Business Notices.

Carl H. Schultz's mineral waters combine dighest effertescence and agreeable taste WITH ABSO-LUTE PURITY AND CORRECT COMPOSITION.

Little advertisements of big bargains are

New-York Daily Tribune

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1897.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—The trial of the French Deputies accused of complicity in the Panama Canal scandals began in Paris; Emile Arton testified to the disbursement of 2,000,000 francs to influence members.—A Russian squadron, it was announced at St. Petersburg, has entered Port Arthur with the consent of China, and will winter there.—An official note was issued by the Spanish Government regarding the movements of the North Atlantic Squadron with a view to aliaying excitement in Madrid.—Shocks of earthquake were felt at a number of places in Italy.—The tombs of Voltaire and Rousseau were opened in the Pantheon to set Places in Italy. — The tombs of Voltaire and Rousseau were opened in the Pantheon to set at rest a long-standing controversy.

CONGRESS.—Both branches adjourned for the holiday recess until January 5. —— Senate: The conference report on the Klondike relief resolution was agreed to; a large number of nominations were confirmed. —— House: Some committee changes were announced and culogies on the late Representative Cooke, of Illipois Representative Cooke, of Illinois,

were delivered. DOMESTIC.—Secretary Alger was busily engaged in planning relief expeditions to the Klondike region. — The Japanese Minister in Washington made another statement, declaring that his Government had no designs whatever on Hawaii. — President McKinley made a large number of nominations, among them that of William Penn Nixon to be Collector of Customs at Chicago. — Pardee Hall, at Lafayette College, Easton, Penn., was nearly destroyed by fire. — Armour delivered another million bushels of wheat to the buil party in Chicago. — Washington Hesing. ex-Postmaster of Chicago, died. — Western woollen goods manufacturers have formed an association to fix the price of raw wool. — State Excise Commissioner Lyman shows that the Raines law has decreased the number of saloons in the State almost one-third, and nearly trebled DOMESTIC .- Secretary Alger was busily in the State almost one-third, and nearly trebled the revenue derived from them.

CITY AND SUBURBAN.—The opinion pre-valled that the building of the underground rapid transit road depended largely upon whether the indemnity bond of \$15,000,000 rewhether the indemnity bond of \$15,000,000 required of the contractor by the decision of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court was to cover the period of construction or the whole period of the lease. — The Committee of Fifty-three appointed to form the new Republi-Fifty-three appointed to form the new Republican Organization arranged to meet on Tuesday evening at the Windsor Hotel. — Harry P. Brocklesbury, cashler of the Williamsburg Cork Works, was arrested for embezzlement, and admitted having robbed the company, — Bernard J. York resigned his office of Special Commissioner of Jurors of Kings County. — The two days' carnival of sports of the New-Jersey Athletic Club closed at Madison Square Garden with an exciting series of contests. — Stocks were strong and higher.

The Weathers—Indications for to-day:

THE WEATHER.-Indications for to-day: Clear; cool. The temperature yesterday: High-est, 50 degrees; lowest, 29; average, 30%.

NEEDLESS ALARM. The Platt-Quigg Rump is very much disturbed over the passage of a resolution at a neeting of Republicans in Lyric Hall on Thursday evening setting forth that the so-called Republican organization does not represent the Republican party of this county, as was demonstrated in the late election, and that consequently it should not be recognized by Mayorelect Van Wyck in the appointment of two Republicans on the Police Commission. As representing the majority of the party who supported Seth Low against the candidate of the regular organization, the meeting authorized the chairman to appoint a committee who should select a candidate for Commissioner to be recommended for appointment to the Mayor-elect. The mover of the resolution subsequently explained that his only purpose was to test Mr. Van Wyck's sincerity in his professions of belief in the principle of majority rule. From this point of view there was no great impropriety in the proceeding, as the effect would only be to offer the Mayor-elect a choice between a candidate named by the Platt-Quigg Rump and another proposed by Republicans claiming to represent a majority of the party. The latter apparently did not stop to consider: First, that the movement represented by them is still in process of formation and unification, and that, strictly speaking, they were not authorized to speak or act for it in so definite and formal a proceeding; and, second, that the fundamental principle of non-partisan municipal government for which they made their fight in November is inconsistent with the bipartisan theory. Nonpartisanship in elections does not dovetail with bipartisanship in appointments.

The action was doubtless taken hastily and

without sufficient reflection upon its significance

or its consequences. So far as the effort, or appointment of an Anti-Machine Republican on the Police Commission is concerned, it is to be hoped that it will not be pursued further. If Mr. Van Wyck desires to obey the spirit of the charter provision that "no more than two" members of the Police Board shall "belong to the "same political party or be of the same opinion on State and National politics," he need go no further than the present Board to find candidates perfectly satisfactory to the majority of the Republican party of this county; men who are not without experience, and whose discharge of official duty has given satisfaction to the community at large. If, however-and we fear this is more likely—he is only anxious to avail himself of an opportunity, by means of this absurd prothe Commission, so that the responsibility for police maladministration and corruption may be divided with Republicans, it is far better that he should be left to his own devices; to make his own dickers and deals with the Platt-Quigg Rump. Then the Republican party would run no risk of being scandalized by the treachery or the misdeeds of its representatives. Meanwhile, it is interesting to note that the organ of the Platt-Quigg Rump is very much exercised over what it calls "a silly piece of impudence" on the part of the Republicans at Lyric Hall in proposing to interfere with the plans of the Rump Bosses for dividing the crimbs of patronage to be distributed under the bipartisan provisions of the charter. Nothing rouses the indignation of that abandoned Tammany oracle so much as interference, or anything that looks like interference, with the

though only aimed at one small office, provoked an outburst of indignant protest from the Rump organ almost as violent as the distribes with which it used to follow President Cleveland when he went duck-hunting in a revenue cutter. It is needlessly alarmed. The new organization Republicans have no disposition to interfere in the division of spoils between Croker and Platt. But they do mean to have it not the Republican party, with which Tammany will divide responsibility.

THE QUESTION OF THE BOND,

Prolonged study of the rapid-transit decision was not essential to a comprehension of the fact that its most embarrassing feature is the requirement of a stipulation on the part of the Rapid Transit Commission to exact an indemnity bond of \$15,000,000 from the bidder to whom the contract may be awarded. Commissioners, counsel and spokesmen for capitalists agree that this condition is an extremely serious matter under the most favorable interpretation, and that the court may give it a meaning which will be absolutely prohibitive. If a bond to that amount covering only the period of construction is intended, a contractor capable of furnishing it may be found. Such a bond running through the term of the lease cannot possibly be given. It is therefore of the first importance to ascertain the meaning of the decision as soon as possible, and the Commission will doubtless endeavor to do so.

In the mean time it is a question of interest though perhaps not of immediate practical importance, whether the Court did not err in assuming the right to require such a stipulation as a condition precedent to its approval of the favorable report. The law which precisely defines the powers and duties of the Rapid Transit Commission provides that "the person, firm "or corporation so contracting for the construc-"tion, equipment, maintenance and operation of "said road shall give a bond to said city in such "amount as said Board of Rapid Transit Com-"missioners shall require, and with sureties to "be approved by said Board, who shall justify "in the aggregate in double the amount of said "bond." Thus the whole question of security for a faithful performance of the contract is left exclusively to the Commissioners, to be decided by them in accordance with their best judgment of what the welfare of the city re quires. The power so conferred is an exceed ingly important one, inasmuch as upon its exercise the success or failure of their labors might depend, as the general reception of the Court's decision forcibly suggests. There is nothing in the act to indicate that the Appellate Division was expected to dictate to the Board in any matter of detail. It was authorized to confirm or reject, finally and as a whole, the report of its commissioners. That it has power to do more than this we do not for the present deny. but we cannot believe that the Legislature intended that under a species of compulsion the Rapid Transit Board should be induced to relinquish the exercise of a power specifically conferred upon it and to exact a bond which its best judgment disapproved as being prejudicial to the interests of the city.

If the jurisdiction of the court properly extends so far, it might apparently be held to have no limit. If the Court is justified in fixing the bond, it might, for aught we see, have imposed any other condition-a maximum bid, for example, or the adoption of a particular motive power, or the resignation of an obnoxious Commissioner. Its construction of its duty is the more annoying, as we may say with entire respect for the Court, by reason of the fact that in general estimate the learned judges, admirably qualified as they are to determine questions of law, are not nearly so well fitted to decide broad practical questions of business as pose successful. These apparently major books are many of the sagaclous and successful men of affairs whose judgment they distrust.

SPORTS OF THE WRONG KIND.

The dishonest, short-track, six-day bicycle race has been followed by a prizefight in Long Island City. Some of the admirers of the sluggers declare that the contest in Gleasonville on Friday night was not savage and feroclous but any such assertion is made absurd by the detailed reports printed in several newspapers which describe all the incidents of the struggle The various accounts agree in saying that Me-Coy early in the fight struck Creedon a tremendous blow which injured one of Creedon's eyes. Again and again as the rounds went on McCoy succeeded in smashing the battered eye of his miserable victim. Blood flowed freely, and the combat was shocking to every spectator with a lingering sense of decency John L. Sullivan is reported as saying that it was a "gentlemanly" fight. The remark of this besotted bruiser is enough in itself to determine the true character of the "mil". But this was not ail. Mayor Gleason, who is a slugger of the Sulli van type himself, a ruffian who has been guilty of many assaults, and who has been behind the bars in his own city, made a speech from the prize-ring platform. He told his hearers that he was proud to be there, and proud of the fact that this fight (which was in reality a revolting battle between law-breaking scoundrels) had not been prevented in the municipality of which he is the executive head. Any thing which Gleason is proud of is usually a thing of which reputable people are heartily ashamed. The true meaning and intent of the and heroic achievement, and does not that mean State law in regard to boxing were plainly violated in this affair.

This State ought to be sufficiently advanced in civilization to suppress six-day bicycle races, especially when they are fraudulently con ducted on short tracks, when they are infamons for avarice, extortion and swindling, as well as for cruelty and brutality; and it ought to make it impossible that any such vile prizeeven appearance of an effort, to secure an fight as that between Creedon and McCoy should ever occur hereafter within its borders. If Tammany had not been successful in the election last month it is likely that the men who mismanaged the short-track, six-day bicycle race would not have been so bold in their wrongdoing; and it is also probable that the prizefighters, McCoy and Creedon, would not have been allowed to use so much violence and to affront public opinion so audaciously as they did on Friday night. Many of the Tammany leaders are enthusiastic devotees of prizefighting in its worst forms, and delight in any sort year repeat the performance, going up every of contest in which extreme pain is inflicted or in which blood flows in streams.

Now there is a Tammany scheme on foot to allow championship baseball contests in this vision, to put Platt-Tammany Republicans on city next year on Sundays. Every respectable citizen will hope that the Legislature will take such action that no Sunday baseball within inclosed areas, and with admission fees charged at the gates, shall be allowed in any part of this State on Sundays. If the New-York nine is permitted to play championship games on Sundays, bleycle races, trotting contests, running races, athletic games of all kinds, and even prizefights, will soon be common on Sundays. No argument in favor of Sunday baseball can be thought of which does not apply equally to Sunday races with horses and Sunday races with bicycles. In recent seasons a great deal of disturbance and disorder has taken place on baseball grounds in the principal cities of the country. The management of the professional players has been so lax and so careless that the services of the police have been called upon in many cases to prevent act-

Sundays big crowds of restless, excitable and turbulent people would be brought together, and the police would find it difficult to check the outbreaks which would undoubtedly take place. The greed for excessive gain and the unscrupulous methods of the men who control some of the best-known clubs have brought discredit on baseball and have tended to encourage understood that it is the Platt-Quigg Rump, and players and spectators alike to tumult. In this State Sunday baseball would be the prolific source of much that is vicious and scandalous, and would not only arouse the hostility of respectable people, but would also work harm to all the open-air sports which are now popular. If New-York should stoop so low as to permit Sunday baseball all the sports which are supported by the people through the payment of gate money would be degraded and damaged.

ALPHONSE DAUDET.

Alphonse Daudet, who died suddenly in Paris last Thursday, has excited in his passing the practically universal sympathy of his countrymen. Yet he had endeared himself to them by loing everything save the thing that, according to all the laws of their literature, they should have expected him to do. The French love a logical writer. Daudet was a type of inconsistency, a man full of the unexpected. Himself a Gascon and the foreordained interpreter of the Midi, he never wrote a line which as a matter of style, as a matter of personal revelation, even binted at his origin. Fate threw him early into in preparations for it, however, and will have the companionship of Flaubert and Tourgenieff; he was one of that small group which used to That is eminently fitting. Winchester was the meet in the garret of "les Goncourt," and he became one of the most fastidious writers of his day, a novelist whose wildest flights of whimsicality could not diminish the elegance nor violate the reticence of his style. He was as much a student of technique, in his way, as Flanbert himself.

How, it may be asked, did he escape Flaubert's aridity and hardness? Daudet had a geniality of soul which entered into his work. He never could have been content with the strictly literary triumphs which satisfied his comrades. Life, after all, was a matter of lively importance to him; here the racy emotions of the Gascon came into play, and the long list of his novels and shorter pieces, of his poems and journalistic writings, is a catalogue of living impressions. His vitality was proved by his exclusion from the Academy. If he gave offence to the Forty through the candor of "L'Immortel" it was, it is true, because he hated the mere routine and dry-rot of the institution; but the student of his career in noting this fact goes further, and remembers that he loathed the Academy because he loved life. His critleism of the Academy was not academic "L'Immortel" was the manifesto of a write who was alive to his finger-tips, who went our in sympathy to all the interests of his time and hence despised an institution of a purely formal character. It was Daudet's humanity that saved him from drifting into the cold, pro fessional methods of Flaubert and the Goncourt, warming his pages into a glow, making them flexible, carrying them everywhere. It was his humanity that gave him, instead of a seat in the Academy, a happier place in the affections of all Frenchmen and foreigners.

Yet Daudet, with all his human interests ould not write a strong novel. His experience as secretary to the Duc de Morny doubtless helped him much; when he came to portray Gambetta in "Numa Roumestan" he had superior qualifications for his task; but not in any of his more serious works has be left a perma nent mark. They have wit, charm, variety, and, as we have indicated, they are all written in a fascinating style; but they lack the depth of feeling required to make a novel of deep purwill pass. The minor volumes will survive; the Tartarin trilogy (in its first and second members at least), "Les Lettres de mon Moulin," 'La Belle Nivernaise," "Trent Ans de Paris" and "Souvenirs d'un Homme de Lettres." In these Daudet's touch is at its lightest; it is more graceful than in any of the more elaborate productions; above all, these minor writings have that humor which made Daudet a is uncommon in France-humor, at any rate, of the sunny sort characteristic of Daudet. The reader of "Jack," or even of the "Rois en Exil," might be pardoned for remembering him merely as a clever, a brilliantly clever, man. The reader of these seemingly less important books to which we have referred will remember him as exquisite in his charm. And he has left no

PEARY'S ARCTIC PLANS.

The graceful gift of Mr. Harmsworth's ship, the Windward, to Lieutenant Peary practically completes the plans of the latter for his coming advance upon the Arctic Pole. No gift could have been more welcome. The Windward is, with a single exception, the most noteworthy Arctic exploring vessel affont. It was used by Mr. Jackson in his very successful work in Spitzbergen, and had the honor of conveying Dr. Nansen himself over the last stage of his unparalleled journey. It is uncommonly well designed for Arctic cruising, and will doubtless be found just what Lieutenant Peary needs. The thanks of the whole American Nation-or of that portion of it that appreciates generosity the whole?-are due to Mr. Harmsworth for his gift, and in equal measure its good wishes go out to Lieutenant Peary for the greatest possi-

ble measure of success in his undertaking. The plan of the venture is perfectly simple. The ship will be pushed as far north on the Greenland coast as possible. There the explorer and two companions will land, with provisions for five years' use. They will be joined by a party of sixteen Esquimaus, with their dogs, sledges, canoes and other equipment. The whole party will then proceed along the coast. making caches of provisions at intervals, until the northernmost point of land is reached. Then a beeline dash across the ice for the Pole. will be made. The Pole having been reached, a similar return will be made. The ship, having first landed them, will return to New-York, and next year will go up again to the landing place to look for traces of the explorers. Not finding them, it will return to this city, and the next year until it finds the explorers where it left them. That may not be for several years, or it may be in one year. Lieutenant Peary expects to make his landing from the ship in September, and to begin the dash for the Pole early the next spring. Under favorable conditions he thinks the forced march across the ice may be made in three months.

Lieutenant Peary thinks most of his trip, after leaving the ship, will be made on land or ice. He does not believe in the theory of an open Polar sea. There will be breaks and leads in the ice-pack which he will have to cross in boats, but no considerable expanse of open water. His reasons for taking only two men with him besides the Esquimaus have ilready been set forth in these columns. They seem eminently sound, and have been practically vindicated by the experience of Dr. Nansen and his one comrade on the famous march after leaving the Fram. It is of interest to observe, by the way, that this expert adventurer thinks the chances are fairly good for Andree's being safe and sound. He never thought the

chance, so far as his personal safety is concerned. But it is useless for any man, however experienced, to offer an opinion as to Andrée's present whereabouts.

THE ALFRED MILLENARY.

After the present, the past. After the celebration of the latest of British sovereigns, the celebration of one of the earliest, perhaps the earliest worthy of serious notice. June, 1897, marked the sixtleth anniversary of the accession of Victoria. October, 1901, will mark the one-thousandth anniversary of the death of Alfred. The day of a man's death is not the usual one selected for celebration. But perhaps it is best in this case, because it is more certainly fixed than any other in his chronology. Even it is not certainly established though Holinshed's date, October 28, is generally accepted. In default of any more certain date, it may well be adopted for the coming celebration, and in it be united commemoration of his birth in 849, his accession in 871, the victory of Edington in 878, the recovery of London in 886, the conquest of Northumbria in 893, and all other known achievements of his reign. The end crowns the work, and the date of the end of a man's lifework may well be observed in memory of all that he has done.

What general celebration of this interesting anniversary the British Nation will make is not yet determined. Winchester is taking the lead an imposing local celebration, if nothing more. great King's capital and home. There he administered his government and pursued his studies. There he wrote his books and codified the laws which for ten centuries have formed the basis of the "common law" of all Englishspeaking lands. There he founded an abbey, and there he died and was buried. Winchester is entitled to be the centre of all the homage the whole empire may pay to the memory of the first King of united England, the real founder of the present world-wide empire. In such homage, indeed, all branches of the Anglo-Saxon stock, however remote, may properly join. Is it not well that even the most Anglophobic Jingo should pay some tribute to the Illustrious Jurist who gave to this Nation the common law which forms the basis of its legal practice and civil rights?

If the dates of Alfred's birth and death are matters of uncertainty, it is not strange that history has played some pranks with the record of his doings. We must dismiss as myths the story of his founding the University of Oxford and that of his having established trial by jury. Neither is it true that he divided England into counties and hundreds. The tale of the burnt cakes in the peasant's cottage may be authentic. What is unquestionable is that as a soldier and legislator he was the greatest European sovereign for several centuries after Charlemagne, and at the same time one of the greatest scholars and authors of his age. He freed England from foreign domination and made it a united kingdom. He founded schools and began the intellectual life of the English people. He introduced into England the system of accurate measurement of time. He founded the foreign commerce of England. He founded English literature. He gave the English-speaking world its common law. He fought fifty-six battles by sea and land. He reigned for thirty years as not only the King of England, but as he "guide, philosopher and friend" of the English people, holding up a great light in a dark age and doing a great work for civilization amid an ignorant and barbarous people, and he died leaving a private name and a public record unsullied and unstained, but luminous with such glory as few monarchs in any land or age have won or merited. The millenary of such a man is one in honoring which the human race will do itself high honor.

CREEDS.

controversy concerning creeds that has ariseh over Dr. Savage's sermon, but rather to give a short summary of the facts in the case sugrested by the briefs of the two parties in the controversy. First of all, then, it will be generally admitted that creeds have always provoked controversy. The latter years of nineteenth century are not peculiar in that respect. Every clause of every historic creed of Christendom has been earnestly, even bitterly. opposed by men who professed and called themselves Christians, and some clauses that have come to be almost sacred through the consecrating hand of time and ancient use were written in the blood of contending factions. All this furnishes no good reason in itself for assailing the creeds or even calling in question such claims to divine authority as may be made for them. The same thing is true of the assured conclusions of astronomy or geology. They had to fight their way into recognition against the ancient bulwarks of ignorance, error, pride or prejudice. The fact that certain creeds finally came to be generally accepted as true statements of Christian belief does not, of course, give them the stamp of divine authority; but it does prove that for one reason or another they were the fittest forms which the Church at the time could find for the expression of its faith.

And not only were the creeds formulated by human beings, but they had to be expressed under the limitations of human speech. Now. no language, however flexible it may be, is capable of expressing every delicate shade of meaning, much less the inexplicable gradations of thought on any great subject or any profound truth. Strictly speaking, language at best is only a clumsy and obtuse handmaiden of thought, a fact that those who have secured the noblest and most complete service from it would be the first to acknowledge. If this is so in ordinary matters, how much more must it be in attempts to define men's thoughts of God and the hereafter. When we reflect how utterly beyond man's powers it is to understand fully and clearly these transcendent subjects, the wonder is not that creeds have been imperfect, but that they have been so successful in their definitions. Moreover, we must remember that even if language were an absolutely perfect vehicle of thought, its meaning and implications change from age to age. For this reason, while a Church can retain the words of a creed, it cannot insure for it exactly the same shades of meaning from generation to generation. Every fair-minded Christian will admit the truth of this; but while it suggests to the thoroughgoing Churchman the necessity of making the Church the authoritative interpreter of the creeds, it suggests to the so-called liberal Christian the need of elasticity in interpreting the creeds. The divergence of these two schools of thought is inevitable, and no amount of argument will ever bring them together.

Lastly, a creed of some sort is essential to the existence of any organization; a really creedless Church is an impossibility. Its bellef may be simple, and almost wholly free from the refined abstractions of theological definition; but belief of some sort there must be. Indeed, we question whether the undue emphasis laid on theological subtleties in the early and middle ages of the Church did not really make it more difficult for the Church to formulate creeds truly expressive of Christianity. It is worthy of note that, although the Greek language lent itself most admirably to the finest plans of the political highwaymen, in whose cause it is temporarily retained, for the division of public plunder. The Lyric Hall resolutions, a peaceable, orderly, quiet, harmless sport. If

baseball games were to be permitted here on out, as he probably did, he has at least an even been cast. The untheological tendencies of Christianity to-day excite at once the apprehension and the scorn of rigid Churchmen. Yet these men whose theology is so imperfect may apprehend most strongly the essential facts and the animating spirit of Christianity, and their belief, were it formulated, would be an interesting contribution to the literature of Christian creeds.

> Gleason the Great approaches his official end with worthy dignity. In coming ages Long Island City may be forgotten, but its last Mayor never. There will be in history no Hunter's Point, no Newtown Creek, "no anything but just Gleason."

> Southern Democrats are again becoming vociferous in favor of intervention in behalf of Cuba. Do they not know that more than a quarter of the Cubans, including some of the foremost leaders, are what they politely term "niggers," and that in that island African blood and Spanish are on an equality? Can it be that they regard "niggers" in Cuba more favorably than in Georgia or Mississippi?

The chief objection to Senator Elisworth's proposed Anti-Cartoon law is that under it every paper that printed a figure "O" would be in danger of prosecution for caricaturing Quigg.

The law of supply and demand applies to the Southern cotton industry as well as to anything else. If the acreage is too great and the production consequently greater than the mills require, low prices are inevitable. Planters will do better if they restrict their cotton acreage and substitute other crops on the rest of the

Opinions of twenty years ago on issues of today are not necessarily pertinent.

While the Government is appropriating money for the relief of the Klondibe "sufferers," hosts of other adventurers are still flock ing to that inhospitable country. Are they deliberately counting on being similarly relieved and brought home at the expense of the American people?

PERSONAL.

Profesor A. Bauer has been obliged, on account of III-health, to decline the office of president of the third International Congress for Applied Chemistry, which is to be held next year at Vienna, and Dr. H. R. von Perger has been elected in his stead.

Lieutenant John W. Woodward, whose death in Philadelphia is announced, never completely recovered from the hole made in one of his lungs by a bullet at the battle of Chancellorsville while he was leading his company. He went to the front at the outbreak of the Civil War, when he was barely twenty years of age, and distinguished himself through the whole of the war. For the last twenty-five years he was connected with the tax office of Philadelphia.

The monument which the members of the "Iron Brigade" are to erect to the memoers of the Trof.
John Gibbon in the Arlington Cemetery, across the
Potomac from the National Capital, is rapidly
nearing completion. A bass-relief of General Gibbon appears on the front of the granite, and the
whole will be one of the handsomest monuments
in the cemetery. Colonel John S. Mosby has just refused to receive

as a present from one of his old guerillas a limb from the walnut from which General Custer hanged ten of the Confederate scouts during the war. He said that he would not touch the wood with a pitchfork.

Elizabeth Rider Wheaton, the well-known prison evangelist, has visited every prison in every important city in the world. She has become known to most railroad men and receives annual passes over all the large lines in this country.

The Emperor of Austria rises at 4:30 a, m. and shaves himself, getting to work at about 5:30. At midday he eats a very plain luncheon of the most frugal description, his only substantial meal in the day being his dinner, which always consists of six day being his dinner, which always consists of six courses, which, when alone, he takes at 3:30 p. m. after which he eats nothing except a roll and a cup of milk before going to bed. He finds this course of diet suits him admirably, and he continues in excellent health.

Two memorials of Thomas Arnold will soon be a suit of With the continues in excellent health.

placed in his native town in the Isle of Wight brass in the Church of St. Mary and a tablet on the house at West Cowes. "It is somewhat urious," says a writer in "The Sketch," "that there appears to be a sort of mystery as to the social position of the father of Thomas Arnold. I know that in one or two biographical memoirs I have consulted the fact of his birth in Cowes in 1795 is barely recorded. Reyond this, I lately happened on a friend, a native of the Isle of Wight, whose mother was one of the old Arnold family located there for generations, and even he was unable to give me the desired information.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

"At Eton," says "The London Globe," "any one who is so minded may at 'Tap' essay the feat of drinking a yard of ale. This is only a pint in liquid art a yard in linear measure, being contained in a long horn-shaped glass, so constructed that unless the drinker drinks with care most of the contents are spilled over him. A book is kept of the time in which the yard can be drunk, and for years until lately the 'record' was ten seconds. This is an iconoclastic age, however, and some one lately disposed of his three feet of ale in nine seconds."

"I didn't want to keep you waiting, Mr. Westend, so I came down just as I was," said Miss Darlington, sweetly, as she entered the parlor, "Oh, what a whopper" exclaimed her small brother, "You know you only had on"—And then Tommy was violently hustled out of the room.—(Harlem Life,

In order to test the loyalty of ants to each other Sir John Lubbock once made fifty of them drunk and incapable, and then drew the attention of twenober ones to their condition. The twentyfive buckled to it, and carried the fifty home to bed.

Clinton furnishes good trapping ground for fur hunters. On and near the premises of one residence in Prospect-st. six large skunks have been killed. In fact, the whole village seems to be overrun with the nuisance. Pedestrians avoid some streets altogether, in fear of meeting the odorous nocturnal travellers. It has been suggested that the village Fathers offer a bounty on every one killed. The skin brings a good price, and those who care to make a little money could find a chance in trapping.—(Utica Observer.

This is how a native of Bulawayo describes a railway engine: It's a huge animal belonging to the white man. It has only one eye (the head lamp) It feeds on fire, and hates work. When the white man pumps it to make it work it screams. It comes from somewhere, but no one knows from whence,

Mrs. Gray-You say Mrs. Greene disagreed with everything I said? Just like her; she never is on the right side of any question.
Mrs. Brown-You misunderstood me. I said she agreed with everything you said.
Mrs. Gray-H'm; that's a way she has of currying favor.—(Boston Transcript.

Sixteen years ago a number of Chicago people settled in Jerusalem, Palestine, in order to await there the second coming of Christ. These colonists, who are known as Spaffordites and Overcomers, have come into conflict with E. S. Wallace, the American Consul at Jerusalem, and they have sent W. Budy to this country to lodge a complaint at Washington against him. In the mean while a number of Christian people in Jerusalem have forwarded charges against the colony to Washington.

Mrs. Gabbleton-I am told that Mrs. Hennypeck has lost all hold on her husband. Old Aunt Broadhead-Yes: I've noticed that he has shaved off his chin whiskers.-(Puck.

According to Dr. Berry, English Dissenters do not egard the English Church as evangelical, But 'The New-York Observer" (Presbyterian) says that the preaching of the English Church is more generally evangelical than that of the Non-Conformist bodies.

"Earnmy Snaggs," asked the teacher, "what part speech is the word 'malediction'?" of speech is the word 'ms "Noun," replied Sammy, "What gender?" "Masculine gender." "Indeed?"

"Yes'm If it was feminine it would be female-diction" -(Pittsburg Chronicle.

The planet Mercury can now be seen, any clear evening, near the horizon in the southwest, about half an hour after sunset. It will not be advantageously placed for observation for more than a few days, however. Its greatest angular distance from the sun occurs next Monday.

Brought Him to Time.—"Mr. Higgamore," said Miss Quickstep, firmly and distinctly, interrupting him, "you have called me a lump of sweetness a great many times, but you have never said you would like to have me regularly with your morning coffee."

NANSEN'S CLOSING LECTURE.

HIS THRILLING NARRATIVE OF ADVENTURE TOLD ANEW TO A NEW-YORK AUDIENCE.

Dr. Nansen's last lecture in New-York was delivered yesterday afternoon before a large and sympathetic audience in Carnegie Hall. At least, this was probably the last opportunity for New-Yorkers to hear from his own lips the marvellous story of his adventures in the frozen North. There is a possibility that on his return to New-York, in the early part of February, he will lecture once more, but it is only a possibility; and, as he will sail from this port on February 19, and as he has declared in most positive terms that nothing will ever tempt him to go on the platform again after his present contract expires, it is not strange that an audience sufficient to fill the large hall assembled to testify, by their presence and their applause, their interest in one of the most marvellous men of the age and in his almost incredible story of exposure and peril.

It is a wonderful story, and Dr. Nansen telle of the English tongue is somewhat lacking in distinctness, but after a few minutes one grows accustomed to it and only now and then a word is missed in the hearing. It is evident that the lecturer knows English perfectly; this is shown not only by his vivid word pictures, in painting which he has no sid from manuscript, but his que-tations from English poets, which fit into the fabric of his address and are not "lugged in" In the opening sentences of the lecture are quoted a line or two from Tennyson's "Ulysses," and in closing he made use of a longer selection from this noble poem, while his last words consisted of an

The pictures thrown on the screen comprised score not shown on Friday night, yesterday's lecture being substantially the same as that given on the previous evening. The narrative is a thrill-ing one, the points of special interest being Johansen's adventure with the bear, finally killed by Nansen with a charge of birdshot, and Nan-sen's own desperate and successful effort to recover by swimming in the icy water, the kyaks, which had accidentally gone adrift. The description of the hut which the two travellers built for their winter stay on Franz Josef Land, when they were actually only eighty miles from Jackson's stoppingplace, was uncommonly interesting. Fortunately Nansen and his companion were able to sleep twenty hours out of twenty-four; what they great-

twenty hours out of twenty-four; what they greatly missed was something to read, for they had nothing but a nautical almanae and a table of logarithms.

Dr. Nansen has a rich vein of humor as well as a strain of poetry in his makeup, and the naiveté of some of his expressions, such as "after some while," adds to the charm of his discourse. Those who have heard him in the course of his tour in this country cannot but regret his determination not to essay lecturing again, and will indulge in the hope that his devotion to science will not prevent him from appearing before American audiences again, after, mayhap, he has actually set foot on the long-sought but elusive North Pole.

INCIDENTS IN SOCIETY.

A pleasant reception was given yesterday afteroon by Mrs. Horace Russell at her home, No. 47 Park-ave., in honor of her daughter, Miss Eleanor Russell, who received in a gown of white silk, trimmed with silver. Mrs. Russell was attired in gown of black velvet, with trimmings of jet. In the circle receiving with the debutante were Miss Helen R. Swift, Miss Edith H. Smalley, Miss Joanna H. Shepard, M. S. Edith Hyde, Miss Sallie P. Barnes and Miss Alice R. Sands. After the reception there was a dinner party for the young people.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Cornelius Howland, of No 318 West Fifty-seventh-st., gave a reception yesterday afternoon to introduce their only daughter. Miss Alice Ward Howland, a pretty girl, who was assisted by her mother and several young friends. The debutante wore a gown of rose-pink satin, with trimmings of gauze and silver em-broidery. Mrs. Howland was attired in a gown of lavender and black satin, with trimmings of lace. Assisting the debutante were Miss Martha Townsend, Miss Hope Drake, Miss Ethel Dominick, Miss Althea Schoonmaker and Miss Christine Fairchild. Some of the guests were Mrs. Benjamin S. Church, Miss Angelica Church, Mr. and Mrs. Henry E. Howland, Mr. and Mrs. Eastman Johnson, Miss De Forest, Mrs. John Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Lansdale Boardman, Mr. and Mrs. Bayard Dominick, Mr. and Mrs. James Rodman Townsend, Mr. and Mrs. James Benedict, Miss Alice Baboock, the Rev. Dr. and Mrs. William S. Reinsford, Mrs. Cortlandt Moss, Miss Nathalie Moss, George W. Maynard, Parke Godwin, Miss Godwin, Mrs. Francis Delafield, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hobart Warren, Alexander M. Hadden, Mr. and Mrs. James W. Pinchot and Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Whitehead. Townsend, Miss Hope Drake, Miss Ethel Domi-

Mrs. John A. Zerega, of No. 28 West Fortyeighth-st., gave a reception yesterday afternoon. Mrs. Zerega was assisted in receiving by Miss Elsa von Bretton Zerega.

Miss Rydle Douglas was formally presented to for the purpose by her mother, Mrs. M. Sheafe Douglas, at her home, in the Rockingham, Broad-way and Fifty-sixth-st.

Mrs. James A. Benedict, of No. 325 Fifth-ave., gave a the dansante at Sherry's yesterday afternoon to introduce her daughter, Miss Juliette Turner Benedict, Clusters of American Beauty roses and palms decked the large ballroom, where the debutante, attired in a simple gown of white silk, covered with gauze, received with her mother, silk, covered with gause, received with her mother, her sister, Misz Carolyn E. Benedict, and a group of girl friends, including Miss Helen Bulkley, Miss Florence Jacquelin, Miss Laura Hard, Miss Eleanor Fitzgerald, Miss Ruth Hoe, Miss Gertrude Alexandre, Miss Edythe Jones, Miss Dorothy Higginson, Miss Martha Jacob, Miss May Riker, Miss Augusta Robbins, Miss Eleanor Anderson, Miss Anna Riker, and Mrs. Allan D. Loney.

Mrs. Samuel Thomas, of No. 17 West Fifty-seventh-st., gave a dinner party last evening in honor of her daughter, Miss Eleanor M. Thomas. The guests included Miss Marion Whitaker, Miss Wyckoff, Miss McCook, Miss Sloan, Miss Dodge, Rudolph Neeser, Edward R. Thomas, John Brice, Mr. Hurry and Mr. Loew.

At Albert Morris Bagby's eighty-ninth musical morning at the Astoria to-morrow at 11:15 o'clock "The Violin Maker of Cremona," a romantic opera in two acts, by Jeno Hubay, the director of the In two acts, by Jeno Hubay, the director of the National Conservatory at Budapest, will be presented for the first time in this country. François Coppée and Henri Beauclair are the authors of the poem. The parts will be taken as follows: Taddeo Ferrari, violin-maker, Heinrich Meyn; Philippo and Sandro, his pupils, Maurice de Vries and Edwin Wareham: Podestat, Ernest Gamble, and Giannina. Ferrari's daughter, Mile. Alice Verlet. The conductor will be Signor Bevignani.

The engagement is announced of Miss Adelaids D. Plume, daughter of I. Edward P. Plume, Newark to F. Sheldon Van Slyke, of this city.

Mrs. Russell Hoadley and Miss Hoadley have returned from Tuxedo and are at the Bucking-ham Hotel for the winter.

MR. SAVAGE MAKES AN OFFER. To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I have little time to give to my critics. But would like to say, once for all, that I wish they would deal with what I say, and not with what I do not say. Some one from Morristown, N. J., who signs himself "H.," has a letter in your issue of this morning, December 18. In my last Sunday's sermon I quoted a few lines from Matthew Arnold as illustrating a certain point. I did not indorse them or say that I agreed with them. I do not. But "H."

say that I agreed with them. To not not assumes that they are my sentiments, and hence his whole letter.

Now, my sermons are published in pamphlet form each week. They come out on Friday. If any one wishes to demolish me, and will kindly let me know, I will gladly send him my sermon in full. Then he can have the advantage of knowing just what and all I say.

what and all I say.
Your reports are fine, as far as they go. But any one knows that a correct paragraph separated from its context may not adequately representance's thought.

New-York, Dec. 18, 1897.

M. J. SAVAGE.

ENGLISH OPERA MISFORTUNES.

The fate that is ever ready to confound those rash persons who will persist in giving English opera has been singing for the last week at the Garden The organization was called the Madisor Square Opera Company. It had had other names and other adventures before. It had been prosperand other adventures before. It had been prosperous and it had met with losses. Why its managers
ever wanted to put on the crown of their misfortunes by giving grand opera in English in NewYork City is one of the things that nobody can
understand, except those who are driven by a reientless destiny to produce English opera regardless of consequences.

The company sang "Faust" all last week, and it
was a question sometimes whother or not the audience outnumbered the company and the orchestraAt any rate the dollars in the best of the office of the not-

was a question sometimes whother or not the audience outnumbered the company and the orchestraAt any rate the dollars in the hox office did not
outnumber the performers in the ratio necessary
to secure merry holidays for them. So it was decided last night that the run of the company had
better end before any further loss was suffered.
The theatre will be closed all this week, and next
week it will be occupied by a company which will
play a farce called "Nancy Hanks," by Frank
Tanashill, fr. Mr. Tannehill and Mise Marie Janses
will be at the head of the cest.